

June 19, 2000

TO: Federal-State Management Group

FROM: Mary Selkirk

SUBJECT: Meeting Outcomes – June 13, 2000

The following is a summary of outcomes from the CALFED Federal-State Management Group meeting held on Tuesday, June 13, 2000. Rick Breitenbach, CALFED staff, led the discussions.

**1. Follow-up on release of the CALFED Framework**

- The CALFED Framework for Action – Mike Spear, USFWS, reported on the recent intense Federal-State deliberations which culminated in the release by the Governor and Secretary Bruce Babbitt on June 9 of the document entitled, “California’s Water Future: A Framework for Action.” This document contains a specific set of actions and proposed investments for the next seven years (Stage 1 of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Plan). Discussion ensued as to commitments of actions and timelines that were made in the action plan.  
*Outcome:* Steve Ritchie will meet with DWR and USBR to begin coordination of near-term implementation. CALFED will provide milestones/targets dates by next week’s meeting.

**2. Updates**

- Science Oversight Team – Science Management Questions  
Larry Smith, USGS and SOT member, updated the group on a number of items:
  - The Team is developing two documents: one on terrestrial science and the other on aquatic science.
  - Comments to the Preface of the CMARP document for the EIS/EIR are due today.
  - SOT has had a short meeting on governance relating to the nine SOT functions.
  - There will be a meeting on June 20 on the Science Program structure.
  - SOT had a meeting with managers to discuss how they can coordinate existing monitoring programs.

Perry Herrgesell, DFG and SOT member, again urged Federal-State Management Group to make management decisions on the Science Program. He said they re working on a 10-12 page description of the science facility.

- ERP Focus Group final recommendations – The ERP Focus Group was convened by CALFED in October 1999 “to assist CALFED in the period prior to the Record of Decision to identify, address and resolve key policy issues associated with the ERP and its implementation.”

CALFED staff, provided copies of the Focus Group's summary of the final consensus recommendations. The executive summary, which summarizes the key recommendations of the ERP Focus Group, is supported by three more detailed following memorandums describing the deliberations:

- **Establishing a Single Blueprint for Ecosystem Restoration and Conservation** – provides recommendations regarding program integration and describes/defines the concept of a single blueprint for ecosystem restoration.
- **ERP Implementation and Priority Setting** – provides recommendations regarding how to set priorities in implementing the ERP, including a proposed process for planning and decision making, guiding principles for priority setting, and selection criteria for evaluating the implementability of potential projects/proposals.
- **ERP Strategic Objectives and Rationales** – Recommends adoption of refined strategic objectives and rationales for the CALFED ERP Program.

Dick Daniel noted that many of these recommendations have been incorporated into the Strategic Plan.

*Outcome:* Information only.

3. **Moving into Implementation: Management Group/Policy Group in the near-term**  
With the ROD expected to be signed in September, the question was what did the Federal-State Management Group see as the function of the two bodies until that time. Members of Management Group strongly expressed that agency leaders feel they are the right people to make the CALFED Bay-Delta Program decisions and should continue to meet regularly. There was general agreement that the management Group should continue to meet regularly to focus specifically on issues pertaining to CALFED implementation.

Discussion also ensued regarding a new Framework Agreement for interim governance. Kate Hansel requested volunteers from each agency to assist her in drafting the final language on the new Framework Agreement.

Mike Spear feels there are high expectations, but that there are issues that must be clarified in the ROD. Steve Macaulay suggested that a list be put together of what needs to be clarified and start working on it.

The Management Group also noted that a public advisory group needs to be part of the process. The Bay-Delta Advisory Council has completed its mandate, and a new State commission has not yet been created. There was general agreement that any new charter for a new advisory body should be developed for the long-term program, not for the interim. There was no agreement reached on exactly how to devise formal public input in the near-term. However, it was agreed that current BDAC members should be invited to the next Policy Group meeting.

Regarding Policy Group, Management Group agreed that there should be one Policy group public meeting scheduled prior to release of the ROD, to provide for formal public comment on what should be included and addressed in the ROD.

***Outcomes:***

Management Group will continue to meet on Tuesday mornings, with a focus specifically on CALFED implementation.

Kate Hansel will seek assistance on drafting the Framework Agreement from all agencies that intend to sign the Agreement.

Issues needing clarification in the ROD will be presented to Management Group next week.

A Policy Group meeting will be scheduled for sometime in July. Current BDAC members will be invited to attend and participate. Agenda will focus on the ROD. Date TBD.

4. **EIS/EIR Update** – Rick Breitenbach provided an agency review and print schedule for the Final Programmatic EIS/EIR. The documents are expected to be released in July and will be followed by a 30-day waiting period. There will be no comment period following this release.

***Outcome:*** Information only.

5. **Status of Fairy Shrimp survey protocol** – Wayne White, USFWS, responded to DWR's permit request. Naser Bateni, DWR- lead on Integrated Storage Investigation, said they had hoped for broader authority. Wayne White said the authority given is for conservation and recovery and is similar to the permit issued for a project in Kern County.

***Outcome:*** Information only.

**6. Other Business**

- Steve Ritchie has a concern with the Multi-Species Conservation Strategy. He would like to see USFWS' approval.

***Outcome:*** MSCS will be an agenda item at next week's Management Group meeting.

- Kathy Kelly referred to an email she had sent to Steve Ritchie last week regarding DFG and NMFS comments on fish screen of diversions in the Delta related to Grantline and repairs on Sherman Island.

***Outcome:*** The item will be placed on a future Management Group agenda.